Docket No.: 12810-00022-US

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Christoph Adami et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

(National Stage of PCT/EP2003/008399, filed July 30, 2003)

Filed: Concurrently Herewith Art Unit: N/A

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR

PREPARING ACID FORMATES AND THEIR

USE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.